



DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL & OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION
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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wastewater Works Operator License Revocation

RICHMOND – The Virginia Board for Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operators revoked an operator's license at its quarterly meeting yesterday. Following is a summary of the Board's action. Copies of the file order and summary are available for viewing online at www.dpor.virginia.gov (using the disciplinary action search feature under "License Lookup").

JOSEPH CRAIG HARRIS
SOUTH HILL, VA

File Number 2003-03363

COMPLAINANT – Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

VIOLATIONS – Harris failed to demonstrate reasonable care and judgment in the performance of his operating duties. His failure to sample and analyze properly the Town of South Hill Wastewater Works Treatment Plant discharge is a clear act of negligence.

BOARD ACTION – Revocation of License No. 1911004442.

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About DPOR and the Board for Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operators:

The Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR) administers and enforces laws regulating 31 commercial occupations and certain professions. The agency licenses or certifies more than 258,000 individuals and businesses ranging from architects and contractors to cosmetologists and professional wrestlers.

DPOR investigates reports of regulatory violations by licensees; pursues complaints of criminal activity by unlicensed practitioners; responds to business-related consumer inquiries and requests for license checks; administers recovery funds for consumers harmed in contractor or real estate transactions; and conducts mediation services and public awareness campaigns.

The Board for Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operators licenses approximately 4,600 individuals who operate water and wastewater treatment facilities. Licensed operators' duties include testing or evaluation to control waterworks (systems for collection, storage, purification, and treatment of water for drinking or domestic use) or wastewater works (sewerage systems and facilities discharging industrial or other wastes into state waters).

For more information, visit DPOR online at www.dpor.virginia.gov.